

What is claimed is:

1           1. A method of booting a computer, the method comprising:

2                     initiating a boot operation;

3                     detecting a failure after initiation of and during performance of the boot  
4                     operation;

5                     initiating a targeted diagnostic operation on at least one hardware device in  
6                     the computer in response to detecting the failure; and

7                     completing the boot operation after initiating the diagnostic operation.

1           2. The method of claim 1, wherein the boot operation comprises a fast boot

2                     operation.

1           3. The method of claim 1, wherein the failure is associated with a failed hardware

2                     device, and wherein detecting the failure is performed prior to performing a diagnostic  
3                     operation on the failed hardware device.

1           4. The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the targeted diagnostic operation

2                     identifies a failed hardware device, the method further comprising isolating the failed  
3                     hardware device responsive to the targeted diagnostic operation.

1           5. The method of claim 4, wherein isolating the failed hardware device comprises

2                     deconfiguring the failed hardware device.

1           6. The method of claim 4, further comprising reconfiguring the computer to

2                     account for isolating the failed hardware device in response to the targeted diagnostic  
3                     operation.

1           7. The method of claim 1, wherein the targeted diagnostic operation is initiated in

2                     response to a detected failure only for those hardware devices that are potential sources of  
3                     the detected failure.

1           8. The method of claim 1, further comprising logging an error detected by the  
2           targeted diagnostic operation.

1           9. The method of claim 8, further comprising discarding an error log generated  
2           during the boot operation prior to initiating the targeted diagnostic operation.

1           10. The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the failure, initiating the targeted  
2           diagnostic operation and completing the boot operation are performed without user  
3           intervention.

1           11. An apparatus, comprising:

2                     at least one processor; and

3                     program code configured to be executed by the at least one processor to  
4           initiate a boot operation, detect a failure after initiation of and during performance  
5           of the boot operation, initiate a targeted diagnostic operation on at least one  
6           hardware device in response to detecting the failure, and complete the boot  
7           operation after initiating the targeted diagnostic operation.

1           12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the boot operation comprises a fast boot

2           operation.

1           13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the failure is associated with a failed

2           hardware device, and wherein the program code is configured to detect the failure prior to  
3           performing a diagnostic operation on the failed hardware device.

1           14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the program code is configured to identify

2           a failed hardware device in response to initiating the targeted diagnostic operation, and  
3           wherein the program code is further configured to isolate the failed hardware device  
4           responsive to the targeted diagnostic operation.

1           15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the program code is configured to isolate

2           the failed hardware device by deconfiguring the failed hardware device.

1           16. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the program code is further configured to

2           reconfigure the apparatus to account for isolating the failed hardware device in response  
3           to the targeted diagnostic operation.

1           17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the targeted diagnostic operation is

2           initiated in response to a detected failure only for those hardware devices that are  
3           potential sources of the detected failure.

1           18. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the program code is further configured to  
2 log an error detected by the targeted diagnostic operation.

1           19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the program code is further configured to  
2 discard an error log generated during the boot operation prior to initiating the targeted  
3 diagnostic operation.

1           20. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the program code is configured to detect  
2 the failure, initiate the targeted diagnostic operation and complete the boot operation  
3 without user intervention.

1           21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the at least one processor includes a  
2 service processor, wherein at least a portion of the program code is configured to be  
3 executed by the service processor.

1           22. A program product, comprising:

2                   program code configured to initiate a boot operation on a computer, detect  
3           a failure after initiation of and during performance of the boot operation, initiate a  
4           targeted diagnostic operation on at least one hardware device in the computer in  
5           response to detecting the failure, and complete the boot operation after initiating  
6           the targeted diagnostic operation; and

7                   a computer readable signal bearing medium bearing the program code.

1           23. The program product of claim 22, wherein the computer readable signal  
2           bearing medium includes at least one of a transmission medium and a recordable  
3           medium.